THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c). An agreement between Sri Ramachandra Medical College and Research Institute, Chennai (a deemed University) and Harvard Medical International inc. (HMI) was signed on 11th February 1997 to become effective from 1-4-97 for a period of 5 years. The agreement broadly envisages the utilization of the expertise available in the Harvard Medical School for strengthening medical education and research facilities at the Deemed University; utilizing such services for enhancing the quality of clinical care services; providing opportunities to at least two students nominated by the Deemed University to pursue further education and training at the Harvard Medical School, and providing an opportunity to the faculty members of the Deemed University for short term exposure to the various aspects of the Harvard Medical System.

The Central Government communicated its no objection to the proposal subject to the condition that no financial commitments would devolve upon the Government or the University Grants Commission and the payments would be made as per Reserve Bank of India Regulations. The organisers had assured the Medical Council of India that the collaboration is purely an academic one and no commercial benefits are to be derived from it.

Disparity in the Pay Scales of Hindi and English Stenographers in NBCC, etc.

*337. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:
SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: (a) whether there is a wide disparity between the pay scales of Hindi and English Stenographers in NBCC, HUDCO and Hindustan Prefab Limited (HPL);

(b) if so, the details and justification thereof;

(c) whether any steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken by Government to remove this disparity and give justice to Hindi Stenographers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Preventing goods in transit from being smuggled into India

*338. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 166 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th July, 1997, and state as to how do Government plan to prevent goods from the transit route between Nepal and Bangladesh via Phulbari, from being smuggled into India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): The operating modalities and working arrangements of the transit route between Nepal and Bangladesh via Phulbari are presently being worked out by Government of India in consultation with the Government of Nepal. The operating modalities are nearing finalisation. All due care will be taken to ensure that smuggling of goods from the proposed transit route does not take place.

Reciprocal recognition of BDS degrees by India, Romania, UK and Australia

*339. SHRI PARAG CHARARHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 964 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st July, 1997, and state:

(a) whether Romania, UK and Australia recognise BDS degrees conferred by Indian Universities and vice-versa;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c). The Question No 964 tabled on 31-7-1997 referred only to the medical degrees awarded by 29 medical institutions in the erstwhile USSR and not to the dental institutions in Romania, UK and Australia.

The United Kingdom and Australia have prescribed certain tests for the candidates seeking admissions to their undergraduate and Postgraduate courses. The Indian Mission in Australia have further informed that the 4-year BDS (Bachelor of Dental Surgery) from a recognised Indian University will be considered as comparable to the general education level of an Australian Bachelor degree. The holder of such a degree can be regarded as a graduate in Australia but it does not mean that he/she can practice in Australia as a Dentist.

The Dental Council of India has informed that they do not have any information pertaining to Romania. The Dental Degrees of UK and Australia which have been included in Part III of the Schedule to the Dentists Act are given in Statement (See below). These are recognised dental qualifications for the purposes of the Dentists Act when held by Indian citizens. No Dental Degrees of Romania has been included in part III of the Schedule to the Dentists Act.

Statement

Recognised dental qualifications granted by Authorities or Institutions in U.K. and Australia when granted to a Citizen of India.

	Authority or Institution	Recognised dental qualification	Abbreviation for registration
U.K.			
1	The Royal College of Surgeons, England (U.K.)	Licentiate in Dental Surgery Fellowship in Dental Surgery Diploma in Orthodontics	L.D.S.R.C.S. Eng. F.D.S.R.C.S. Eng. D.Orth. R.C.S. Eng.
2	The Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh (U.K.)	Licentiate in Dental Surgery Fellowship in Dental Surgery	L.D.S.R.C.S. Edin. F.D.S.R.C.S. Edin.
3	Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow (U.K.)	Licentiate in Dental Surgery Diploma in Orthodontics Fellowship in Dental Surgery Higher Diploma in Orthodontics granted only up to 1965.	L.D.S.R.C.P.S.G. D.D.O.R.C.P.S.G. F.D.S.R.C.P.S.G. H.D.O.
4	The University of Newcastle upon Tyne (The University of Durham Newcastle upon Tyne (U.K.)	Licentiate in Dental Surgery Bachelor of Dental Surgery Master in Dental Surgery Doctor of Dental Science obtained from 1962	L.D.S. Durham. B.D.S. Newcastle/ Durham. M.D.S. Newcastle/ Durham. D.D.S. Newcastle/ Durham.
5	The University of London (U.K.)	Bachelor of Dental Surgery Master of Dental Surgery Master of Science (Dentistry)	B.D.S. London M.D.S. London. M.Sc. London.
6	The University of Manchester (U.K.)	Doctor of Dental Surgery Master of Dental Surgery Bachelor of Dental Surgery Licentiate in Dental Surgery	D.D.S. (U.Manc.) M.D.S. (U.Manc.) B.D.S. (U.Manc.) L.D.S. Manc.

Authority of Institution	Recognised dental qualification	Abbreviation for registration
7 The University of Birmingham (U.K.)	Bachelor of Dental Surgery	B.D.S. Birmingham
	Master of Dental Surgery	M.D.S. Birmingham
	Licence in Dental Surgery abolished from 1950	L.D.S. Birmingham
8 The University of Liverpool U.K.	Bachelor of Dental Surgery	B.D.S. Liverpool
	Master of Dental Surgery	M.D.S. Liverpool
	Doctor of Philosophy	Ph.D. Liverpool
	Licence in Dental Surgery abolished in 1963.	L.D.S. Liverpool
9 The University of Leeds (U.K.)	Bachelor of Dental Surgery	B.Ch.D.U. Leeds.
	Master of Dental Surgery	M.Ch.D.U. Leeds.
	Diploma in Dental Surgery	L.D.S.U. Leeds.
10 The University of Sheffield, U.K.	Bachelor of Dental Surgery	B.D.S.U. Sheff.
	Master of Dental Surgery	M.D.S.U Sheff.
	Licentiate of Dental Surgery	L.D.S.U Sheff.
11 The University of Bristol (U.K.)	Bachelor of Dental Surgery	B.D.S.U. Brist.
	Diploma in Dental Surgery	L.D.S.U. Brist.
	Master of Dental Surgery	M.D.S.U Brist.
12 The University of Dundee/ University of St. Andrews, Dundee U.K.	Bachelor of Dental Surgery	B.D.S U Dundee/St. Andrews
	Master of Dental Surgery	M.D.S.U Dundee/ St. Andrews
	Doctor of Dental Sciences	D.D Sc.U. Dundee St. Andrews
	Diploma in Public Denstistry	D.P.D.U. Dundee/ St. And
	Diploma in Dental Surgery abolished in 1950	L.D.S.U. St. And.
13 The Queen's University of Belfast (U.K.)	Bachelor of Dental Surgery	B.D.S.Q.U. Belf.
	Master of Dental Surgery	M.D.S. Q.U. Belf.
	Licentiate in Dental Surgery abolished	L.D.S.Q.U. Belf.
Australia		
1 University of Sydney Sydney Australia)	Bachelor of Dental Surgery	B.D.S. Sydney
	Master of Dental Surgery	M.D.S. Sydney.
2 University of Queensland, Australia	Master of Dental Science Oral Biology (Oral Histology and Oral Pathology)	M.S.Sc. (Oral Bio-Oral Histo. and Oral Path) Queensland.